

**2013 APPROVED
WORK PLAN AND MEETING SCHEDULE
for the
INDIAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Membership

Rep. Sandra D. Jeff, Co-Chair
Sen. John Pinto, Co-Chair
Rep. Eliseo Lee Alcon
Rep. Alonzo Baldonado
Rep. Sharon Clahchischilliage
Rep. Patricia A. Lundstrom
Rep. James Roger Madalena

Sen. Richard C. Martinez
Sen. Cliff R. Pirtle
Rep. Jane E. Powdrell-Culbert
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez
Sen. John C. Ryan
Sen. Benny Shendo, Jr.
Sen. William P. Soules

Advisory Members

Rep. Ernest H. Chavez
Sen. Carlos R. Cisneros
Rep. Zachary J. Cook
Sen. Stuart Ingle
Sen. Daniel A. Ivey-Soto
Rep. Georgene Louis

Rep. Antonio "Moe" Maestas
Rep. Debbie A. Rodella
Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero
Rep. Nick L. Salazar
Sen. Clemente Sanchez

Work Plan

The New Mexico Legislative Council created the Indian Affairs Committee (IAC) on April 30, 2013. The IAC addresses issues and policies that affect Native Americans in New Mexico. In view of the fact that the IAC aims to address issues and policies relating principally to New Mexico's Native American population, the IAC strives to conduct its meetings in locations that are accessible to the state's tribal members and their leaders. Moreover, meeting at the various Indian nations, tribes and pueblos in New Mexico facilitates government-to-government cooperation. The IAC meetings are essential to the work of the legislature in addressing the issues affecting this segment of its constituency.

Because the issues that affect Native Americans transcend any one subject matter, the committee will coordinate, as needed, with other committees regarding presentations of subject matter of common concern. Subject matter covered by the Economic and Rural Development Committee and Water and Natural Resources Committee is of particular interest during the 2013 interim. The IAC proposes to explore and discuss the topics in each major issue area affecting Native Americans during the 2013 interim as follows:

A. State-Tribal Relations:

1. discuss state resources available to Native American farmers and ranchers affected by severe drought conditions and Indian resource development institutes focused on agriculture, engineering and business education;

2. review the process for entering into and renewing the Indian Gaming Compact;
3. study the process to establish state recognition of Indian nations, tribes and pueblos in New Mexico;
4. assess state resources for recovery assistance to the pueblos affected by the severe wildfires;
5. review state-tribal jurisdiction on domestic matters, including full faith and credit and enforcement of protective orders;
6. evaluate state agency reports on activities pursuant to the State-Tribal Collaboration Act;
7. consider the involvement of state legislators in government-to-government relations with tribes and participation in the state-tribal summit;
8. discuss outreach efforts conducted by the Veterans' Services Department to Native American veterans;
9. review the process for requesting early voting sites in Indian country and the participation of Native American youth working in the polls; and
10. discuss the cross-deputization/dual endorsement of tribal police.

B. Health:

1. assess health care, including dental care, for Native Americans and in Native American communities;
2. evaluate implementation of the Native American Suicide Prevention Council to collaborate with the Clearinghouse for Native American Suicide Prevention to develop and provide culturally based suicide prevention initiatives for Native Americans as mandated by SB 417 (2011 regular session) and SB 447 (2013 regular session);
3. review mental health programs and services for Native Americans;
4. explore issues of domestic violence against Native American women and children;

5. review the process of solid waste monitoring on Native American land; and
6. assess elderly care and services available to the elderly Native American community.

C. Development in Indian Country:

1. discuss capital outlay concerns, including tracking the expenditure of allocated funds, alternative funding sources and coordination with the Navajo Nation, including chapter certifications under the Navajo Nation's Local Governance Act;
2. review the funding of projects from the Tribal Infrastructure Project Fund, including the projections of allocated amounts pursuant to the Severance Tax Bonding Act;
3. review the funding of the Indian water rights settlements, including the Navajo, Aamodt, Taos Pueblo and Abeyta Indian water rights settlements, including the use of severance tax bonding capacity;
4. explore tribal utility projects on Indian lands, including gas and electric projects;
5. compare and contrast the funding of projects in Indian country through the Tribal Infrastructure Project Fund and capital outlay and the impacts of tribal capital outlay reversions pursuant to the Tribal Infrastructure Act;
6. review the Main Street program;
7. review transportation issues, including railroad crossings and road projects; and
8. discuss telecommunications issues, including double charging and access.

D. Education:

1. evaluate the implementation of the Indian Education Act, the American Indian Post-Secondary Education Act and general education of Native Americans, including improvements to performance;
2. review Native American study programs and resources at higher education institutions;

3. study the feasibility of providing lottery scholarships to otherwise eligible students who attend tribal colleges;
4. consider the establishment of a bi-state charter school;
5. consider the establishment of a mock or pilot civic training program for Native American youth similar to the boys and girls state civic training program;
6. assess resources for students with special needs and their parents; and
7. ask the New Mexico Legislative Council to assess the need for a subcommittee composed of members of the Legislative Education Study Committee and the IAC to evaluate impact aid in New Mexico.

**Indian Affairs Committee
2013 Approved Meeting Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
June 5	State Capitol Santa Fe
July 15-17	Pueblos of Isleta, Santa Ana and Santo Domingo
August 19-20	Ohkay Owingeh and the Pueblo of Picuris
September 24-27	Nenahnezad, Church Rock (two days) and the Pueblo of Zuni
October 28-29	Mescalero
December 2-3	Pueblo of Pojoaque State Capitol, Santa Fe